

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/612,693

Examiner

Bernarr E. Gregory

Applicant(s)

MRSTIK, A. VINCENT

Art Unit

3662

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment of 16 May 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

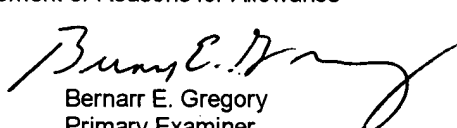
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Bernarr E. Gregory
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3662

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art of record either taken alone or taken in any possible combination would anticipate or would tend to render obvious Applicant's claimed method as set forth in independent claim 1 that is particularly characterized at least by the claimed method steps of "combining the phase shifted signals from each array element to provide a composite signal"; "processing the composite signal to extract a phase of the coherent source signal as received at each element"; and "using the extracted phase for each element to determine a relative location of each said element" taken together and taken in the overall context of independent claim 1.

Dependent claims 2-5 are allowable for at least the reasons for which claim 1 is allowable.

None of the prior art of record either taken alone or taken in any possible combination would anticipate or would tend to render obvious Applicant's claimed method as set forth in independent claim 6 that is particularly characterized at least by the claimed method steps of "combining the phase shifted signals from each array element to provide a composite signal"; "processing the composite signal to extract respective phases of the three coherent source signals as received at each element"; and "using the extracted plurality of phases for each element to determine a location of each said element relative to the other elements in three dimensions" taken together and taken in the overall context of independent claim 6.

Dependent claims 7-13 are allowable for at least the reasons for which claim 6 is allowable.

None of the prior art of record either taken alone or taken in any possible combination would anticipate or would tend to render obvious Applicant's claimed method as set forth in independent claim 14 that is particularly characterized at least by the claimed method steps of "combining the phase shifted signals from each array element to provide a composite signal"; "processing the composite signal to extract a phase of the first and second coherent source signals ..."; and "using the extracted phase for each element to determine a relative location of each said element ..." taken together and taken in the overall context of independent claim 14.

Dependent claims 15-18 are allowable for at least the reasons for which claim 14 is allowable.

None of the prior art of record either taken alone or taken in any possible combination would anticipate or would tend to render obvious Applicant's claimed method as set forth in independent claim 19 that is particularly characterized at least by the claimed method steps of "combining the phase shifted signals from each array element to provide a composite signal"; "processing the composite signal to extract a phase of the $n+1$ coherent source signals as received at each element"; and "using the extracted phase for each element to determine a relative location of each said element relative to n directions and relative phase

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delays through each said module” taken together and taken in the overall context of independent claim 19.

None of the prior art of record either taken alone or taken in any possible combination would anticipate or would tend to render obvious Applicant’s claimed method as set forth in independent claim 20 that is particularly characterized at least by the claimed method steps (iii) through (xiii) taken together and taken in the overall context of independent claim 20.

Dependent claims 21-22 are allowable for at least the reasons for which claim 20 is allowable.

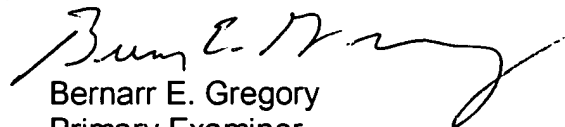
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bernarr E. Gregory whose telephone number is (571) 272-6972. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Thomas H. Tarcza, can be reached on (571) 272-6979. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Bernarr E. Gregory
Primary Examiner
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